



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Nominations sought to carry Bicentennial torch

LAFAYETTE, Ind. – The Tippecanoe County Bicentennial Committee invites the public to nominate someone to represent Tippecanoe County in the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay. The forms are now available online at Indiana2016.org. Torchbearer nominations recognize Hoosiers who demonstrate exceptional public service, excellence in their profession, acts of heroism, or volunteer service to their neighborhood, community, region or state.

A local committee will select about 20 people to carry the torch through the Lafayette area October 12, 2016 near the end of the torch's 5-week, 2,300 mile journey across Indiana.

"Being selected as a torchbearer is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," says Sue Scholer, Tippecanoe County Bicentennial Coordinator. "We look forward to honoring the people and events that have played a significant role in shaping our state's history."

Nominations for torchbearers are available at the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay website: indiana2016.org/torchrelay/nomination-forms. Nominations will be accepted through December 31, 2015. Forms can also be dropped off or mailed to the Tippecanoe County Bicentennial Committee at the Tippecanoe County Commissioners Office, 201 N. Third Street, Lafayette, IN, 47901 or at Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette, 301 Frontage Road, Lafayette, IN, 47905.

Nominees must be a current or former resident of Indiana or be nominated in honor of a current or former resident. Hoosiers may be nominated posthumously and a

substitute torchbearer can be submitted to carry the torch on behalf of the nominee. Nominees must be at least 10 years of age (torchbearers that are minors will need to meet other youth torchbearer requirements). A nominee must possess the physical adaptive ability to carry the torch a minimum of a quarter mile. Accommodations will be made for those torchbearers with disabilities. The complete list of torchbearer criteria may be found on the online nomination page.

The torch will be primarily transported by people, passing the flame from person to person. The relay will also use other modes of transportation that are symbolic to the state, including a race car, locomotive, boat, horse and wagon and others.

A torch is the centerpiece of our state flag, representing liberty, enlightenment and Indiana's far reaching influence. The torch itself is being designed by engineering faculty and students at Purdue University.

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Indiana: 1816-2016

Indiana's 2016 Bicentennial celebration aims to honor our state's 200 years of history, and to do so in a modern way that engages all 6.5 million Hoosiers and leaves a lasting legacy for future generations.